

Bristol Sept 3. 1846.
 F.D. tells us that this is his birthday
 to freedom. —)

GARRISON
MSS.

Dear Sir

As I know that sympathy in the great
 cause is precious to you, I hope I may not seem
 to be intruding unnecessarily on your time if I send
 you a few lines to tell you how deep a sympathy ap-
 pears to be excited by our friend Mr Douglass' visit.
 How warm a desire is manifested to show an effectual
 interest in the cause. — The meeting last night was one
 of the most deeply moving ones I ever was present at.
 There was a densely crowded audience, all deeply feeling
 the cause of humanity, listening with alternate expressions
 of indignation, compassion, sympathy & enthusiasm to a
 fugitive slave, who now stood before them as "a poor old
 brother" pleading for his enslaved brethren; — and with what
 force! I do not recollect ever to have heard such a union
 of powerful reasoning, facts impressively brought
 forward, touching appeals, & keen sarcasm & graphic description.
 And sitting on the platform near him was the venerable
 Joseph Reynolds, son of the philanthropist Richard Reynolds,

rest to him Eliza Burwell! It was a great object of
interest to the meeting, & gave a few words of sympathy.
It was beautiful to observe the deep interest he took in
Mr D's speech, & in the demonstrations of sympathy. The
closing scene I wish you to see Abolitionist friends to have
witnessed. The rounds of applause were quite stunning; &
Mr D. most pleasantly contrasted his treatment in England
with that he had received on his return to democratic America; he
rejoiced, as we do, that Eliza Burwell was present to bear witness
to the truth of his statements on his return to America. Mr D.
did not withdraw without being saluted by a multitude of hands
eagerly held out to offer him a fraternal grasp, & indeed so & his
audience seemed quite unwilling to part. The whole was a
heartstirring & never to be forgotten scene. I trust that Eng-
land will send forth a voice which shall be heard in the very
strongholds of sin & oppression. — But my principal object
in writing was to tell you what I have heard today of the
interest excited. It happens to be the day which I devoted to
visiting my scarce friends, & I went around with S. Burwell's
son of Westwood, & the Bazaar paper. — On my way I
was happy to be able to bid a last farewell & God speed to
J.D. whom I saw setting off. Afterwards went to call on
a tailor who had been at the meeting; I wish I could express
to you his deep interest, he said that he had never been
present at anything which so deeply moved him, to imagi-

that one possessed of such high power tho' have become
a slave nearly eight years ago. He had been planning what
he tho' maker for the Bazaar. He had named L. Green & Co on
the preceding Monday, signed his pledge, & undertaken to
accuse others names; to forward the object he proposed ac-
companying every article he sent home with a kind of
Bottawood. Is it not delightful to see good seed spring-
ing up so soon? A young woman whom I found sitting very
happily working by her husband, who being a chimney sweep
was in a blacker condition than any nego, so darkly colored
that I told her of "Nigger pens" in churches; - you are
quite right in supposing that the English people cannot
realize the horrors perpetrated in "free" America. — Then
I went into a "Ragged School" we have lately commenced for
wretched children deep in sin & misery. (Our beloved Dr.
Tuckerman sowed that good seed here, in a soil well
prepared & watered by my reverend Father.) The Master had
been at the rooms the evening before, & could only express
his feelings by saying that what he had then heard wo.
support & encourage him through all his trials with
the children during the next six months. — In short
every one seems of the same mind & heart in the
matter, & I trust that something effectual will be done.

4th

and this obliges me to say that there was one exception in
Mr Douglass's speech which I & others much regretted. The
only allusion he made to Unitarians was "that he did
not blame them for inconsistency in holding the fellowship
with slaveholders, because as they admitted sheepstealers
to their communion it was not to be wondered at if they
admitted manstealers." This of course called forth a decisive
laugh, very painful to the Unitarians present. Now it seems
to me that this was a sarcastic & unnecessarily offensive
manner of stating the fact that Unitarians do not shut
the Lord's table against any who there deserve to profess them-
selves his disciples: - whether they are sincere & consistent
is a matter between God & their own consciences; we
do not invite sheepstealers, nor have I heard of any one
openly engaged in criminal conduct coming to our communion;
- such a one, if he offered himself, would be re-
monstrated with by our ministers. The exception there-
fore gave a very incorrect impression. If he had
said that threats from the Unitarians had driven ^{some} of former
advocates of the cause, Channing, Teller, & others, yet
that these ministers as a body were subject to their
high profession of civil & religious liberty &c. I should
have been glad that they should have been thus rebuked.
Now I am quite sure, my dear Sir, that S. D. had not
the least intention of giving so much unnecessary pain, or
of strengthening in the public mind the idea that we are

not Christians; - he has I understand given a satisfactory explanation to Mr. Armstrong, which will I hope obviate the evil. I have mentioned the matter because I think people do not always know how much harm such expressions do; be fully aware that it does not in the slightest degree diminish our regard for him, as I am sure he did not mean any thing unkind, & I think he knows that the Unitarians in England have been foremost in holding out to us the right hand of Christian & brotherly fellowship. -

When I began, I had no idea of inflicting on you so long a letter; - indeed it needs much weaker than after so short an acquaintance I had ventured to write to you as an old & confidential friend. - But indeed, my dear Sir, I feel to you as such; - since Miss Martineau's book first led me to a knowledge of your cause, I have felt the warmest sympathy with your workmen, & desire to have the privilege of personal interview with you. And now I hope that you will receive me among your friends. What a close bond of brotherhood this, without any signing or pledging, to be all working together God's work! - But you know well that we have much to do at home, & this must call forth our constant & earnest devotion of heart & mind; we have a slavery of sin & ignorance at over every door which is appalling. At this very time a few of us are trying to carry knowledge & virtue to some of the poor & bare ones in the form of what is called in the public prints a "Ragged School," we call it a Free School; we have happily found a man deeply

intended with the love & patience who well understand this
most difficult task, Isaac Phelps. — he has already led back to
the path of virtue one poor outcast, who had not been under
a roof for many months, who had been twice in prison,
& ~~whipt~~. The very night his Father's home received him,
the police had planned committing him to prison as a vagabond.
Mr P. took him with him to the Broadmead meeting "clothed
as in his right mind;" the attention of numbers was fixed in
astonishment on the poor fellow; — he said he understood
much of what Mr Douglass said, because he had felt it him-
self. — I mention this incident as it will give you a little
insight into our calls for exertion at home; we have
also many schools, a Domestic Museum &c &c which I wish you could
have paid long enough to see, that you may give us your
sympathy in return for ours. —

I have written to Jos. Barker ^{at New Haven} to our dear friends of your
purpose of visiting their town; — J.B. is at present in Dublin.
Hope that you will not be prevented from going there as
Lisburn is an important centre of a populous district. —

Our warmest & best wishes will attend you to your
home my dear Sir; — you will have a friendly meeting with
us in the Antislavery box, in which you will find for you
a copy of the Memoirs of our dear Father, with whom we
wish that you had become acquainted; — you will kindly keep
it in remembrance of us. — My Brother Ruf. will soon
much please with Mr D's visit, which has excited great

enthusiastic at Headquarters —
My Sister Anna fully accords in what I have
said about the newspaper of G.D., ^{but you don't say} I would
not be surprised if the paper itself is to be very ill-tempered indeed.
Should it be made of her well set business understand us in
any regarding off & on only upon unscrupulous terms
you know that we have a deep and true love for
the cause & regard for him. — It was a little
disappointed that he had not time to write a few
lines in our books in memorial of his visit:—
we wished to place your "beloved brother's" writing by
yours: — do you think that he will on Sunday, as
when he has a few minutes to spare, write a
few lines, perhaps those he quoted from Campbell, or
two pieces of paper, & send them to us by post
that we may insert them. — I am almost ashamed
of troubling you about the matter, but the esteemed
at a favours if you will manage the affairs for us.—
If any of the circumstances I have men-
tioned to you should be likely to be interesting to your
friends at home you are quite at liberty to
place them at Mr Chapman's disposal, as coming from
an English lady, or from H.C. Bristol: — you must
forgive our frequent meetings, in not letting to see
our names in print. — Farewell, my dearest,

my Mother & Sister warmly participate in most friendly
regard & best wishes to you & Mr. Douglass, I believe we
will remain, yours very faithful friend,
Miss Carpenter



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My direction is:

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